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BIG THREE PLAN 'TOUGH POLICY'

Full Agreement In Paris On Joint Approach

Far East Questions To Be Excluded From Agenda

COMMENT

The gathering in Paris today of Deputies entrusted with devising the agenda for the Council of Foreign Ministers is already a factor in international politics. Before the deputies thresh out the requirements, before there is any sort of assurance that they can agree, the meeting engages the attention and delays the decisions of the governments of Western Europe.

On this issue, the attitudes of America and Europe differ; the pressure for the conference comes from London and Paris, the reluctance from Washington. Washington feels that until the West has built its "position of strength" parleys with the Russians will be just another empty propaganda show.

Western Europe is more impressed by the fury of Russian opposition to the rearmament of Germany. It is prepared to find out what price, if any, the Kremlin is willing to pay to prevent it.

For that reason, it is to be hoped that experience will forestall a dreary repetition of past bids for better understanding. So far these meetings have merely deepened the gulf between Russia and the West and it would be useless to proceed unless the Paris preliminary discussions offer some possibility of real negotiations.

Today the West deplores Soviet hostility, looks for ways of deflecting it. But there is one thing they cannot do — take any blame for it. It is self-caused and self-sustained and even if the years since the war had been one long record of compliance, the hostility of the Soviet world would almost certainly have remained as intense as it is. For one thing alone assuages it — the promise of total control.

Even so, Europeans are slow to draw the conclusion that the Kremlin will have no peace except on its own terms and it follows that a further attempt to fathom Russian intentions is the prerequisite for putting defence programmes into high gear. We look therefore to Paris hopefully if not with confidence.

The French, British and American deputies today reached full agreement on the attitude they propose to adopt jointly at the four-Power meeting of Foreign Ministers' deputies due to start here tomorrow morning.

Paris, Mar. 4.

CZECH DIPLOMAT FADES OUT

New Delhi, Mar. 4.

Czechoslovakia's second ambassador to India since the Communists came to power in the former country in 1949 has disappeared, it was learned today.

Dr Bohuslav Kratochvil, Czech Ambassador to Britain from January, 1947, until August, 1949, walked out of his Embassy here on Thursday morning and has not returned.

An Embassy spokesman condemned his action as a "betrayal of his country", and added that it was to be regarded as resignation.

The spokesman said that Dr Kratochvil, a Social Democrat, had been recalled to Prague for "consultations."

His predecessor in office, Dr Jaroslav Sejnoch, was recalled to Prague when the Communists came to power but he refused to obey the summons, remained in India for a few months after a Charge d'Affaires had taken over the Embassy and was later reported to have reached Canada.

Dr Kratochvil left the Embassy with his wife and two-year-old son without the knowledge of his staff, the spokesman said. He was not believed to have left India.

The Embassy spokesman here was asked if the Ambassador's action was in any way related to the recent arrest in Czechoslovakia of the former Foreign Minister, Dr Vladimir Clementis. "I cannot say that," he replied.

He described Dr Kratochvil's action as "counter-revolutionary" but declined to comment on a suggestion that the Ambassador had recently had differences with his Government.

Dr Kratochvil, 50, came to India in November, 1949, and was one of the most popular diplomats in Delhi. A leader of the underground resistance to the Germans he spent six years in concentration camps.

He is an authority on education and had been intended for an academic career. He was Chairman of the Cultural Commission of the Social Democratic Party and head of a department in the Ministry of Education before going to India. — Reuter.

Penang Shooting

Penang, Mar. 4.

A Chinese firewood dealer was shot dead here tonight by a masked gunman. — Penang's third shooting in five days. — Reuter.

They were in consultation this morning and this afternoon at the French Foreign Office.

They agreed that the agenda for the four-Power conference of Foreign Ministers, which may follow the deputies' talks, must include "the real causes of tension in Europe."

This, they also agreed, involved first of all "the excessive armaments" of the Eastern European states and of Soviet Russia herself.

They were in agreement, it was learned in circles close to the delegations, that they would do their utmost to make a full-dress four-Power meeting possible.

The Western representatives talked for an hour and 20 minutes this morning and then adjourned for lunch as guests of the French Foreign Minister, M. Robert Schuman.

They met again after lunch. It was learned that the three representatives were agreed to exclude Far East questions from the agenda.

"All the business of drawing up the agenda could be done in a day," one Western delegate said tonight. "But no doubt it will take at least a week and perhaps longer."

At today's talks the United States was represented by Dr Phillip C. Jessup, Ambassador-at-Large, Britain by Mr Ernest Davies, Foreign Under-Secretary, and France by M. Alexander Parodi, permanent head of the Foreign Office.

M. Parodi presided at the meetings which were also attended by a number of senior officials.

Dr Jessup countered any impression that the United States Government was less determined than the British and French Governments for a resumption of full-scale four-Power talks. — Reuter.

"ACT TOUGH"

Paris, Mar. 4.

The West today agreed on an "act tough" policy in the Big Four deputies' conference.

The Western delegates said there had been some "difference of emphasis" between the United States, Great Britain and France on Western policy. The United States delegation arrived here considerably more sceptical than the British or French about the possibility of getting the Russians to talk business at last. However, advance talks enabled all three delegations to reach full agreement on both overall policy and tactical approaches to be used toward the Russians.

One of the first tactical objectives of the West will be to try to manoeuvre the Soviet deputy, Mr Andrei Gromyko, into talking about the causes of conflict rather than merely listing them. The Western representatives were not too confident, however, that they would succeed in doing so as the Russians have strongly hinted, in the exchange of notes preceding the Paris meeting, that they do not think

the deputies should do anything more than draw up the agenda and list the order of priority in which questions are to be discussed later by the Foreign Ministers.

It is expected that the Russians will try to get top priority for discussion of German unification and rearmament in the hope of shifting to the West the blame for present European tension. — United Press.

Task Force Mystery Uncovered

Tokyo, Mar. 4.

American Marines, pushing northward on the Korean central front north of Hoengsong, today solved the month-old mystery of the remains of the missing American task force.

In a tiny mud-filled valley they stumbled on the last battlefield where a 2,000-strong American 2nd Division task force fought until it was overpowered by superior Chinese Communists on February 12.

Officers said that the task force, which was surrounded several miles behind the enemy lines when the 8th South Korean divisions it had gone to rescue collapsed, fought its way out in a 24-hour running fight, leaving trucks, tanks and its dead behind.

The Marines today found the valley strewn with blasted and burnt trucks and tanks and frozen American, Korean and Chinese bodies.

Grave registration officers said that they would probe into the surrounding hills, expecting to find more American dead. — Reuter.

Kowloon Doctor Dies Of Wounds

After a week's critical struggle, Dr Arthur Fung Hing-yau who was shot and severely wounded by gunmen last Monday, died at the Queen Mary Hospital at 5 a.m. today.

The late Dr Fung offered resistance to two armed robbers who entered his house at 23 Castle Peak Road when he believed that the attention of one of the intruders was distracted.

Take Poison In A Grave

Tokyo, Mar. 4.
A couple committed suicide by taking poison in a grave which they had dug themselves in a vegetable patch in Odawara City on Saturday.
The man, about 30, and the girl, about 23, were found in a death embrace, their bodies inside the grave and their heads protruding above the ground. — Reuter.

KREMLIN'S BUDGET KEENLY AWAITED

Moscow, Mar. 4.

The Paris conference will coincide with the opening of the Supreme Soviet annual session on Tuesday which principal business will be the adoption of a budget for 1951 that will reflect the country's economic progress as well as the Kremlin's outlook on peace and war.

According to official statistics, the Soviet armaments budget development follows: in 1940, 32.6 of the total; 1946, 23.9 percent; 1949, 19 percent; and 1950, 18.5 percent.

With the deterioration of the international situation it is a matter of much interest to foreign observers what proportion of the present budget of the Soviet government will allow for capital construction, social services and armaments.

If another five-year-old plan is announced, it will furnish additional light on Soviet prospects in the next few years, since according to Stalin's recently enunciated thesis, long-range peaceable construction cannot be carried out simultaneously with increased armaments without resulting in bankruptcy. — United Press.

Stresses In W. Germany

Bonn, Mar. 4.

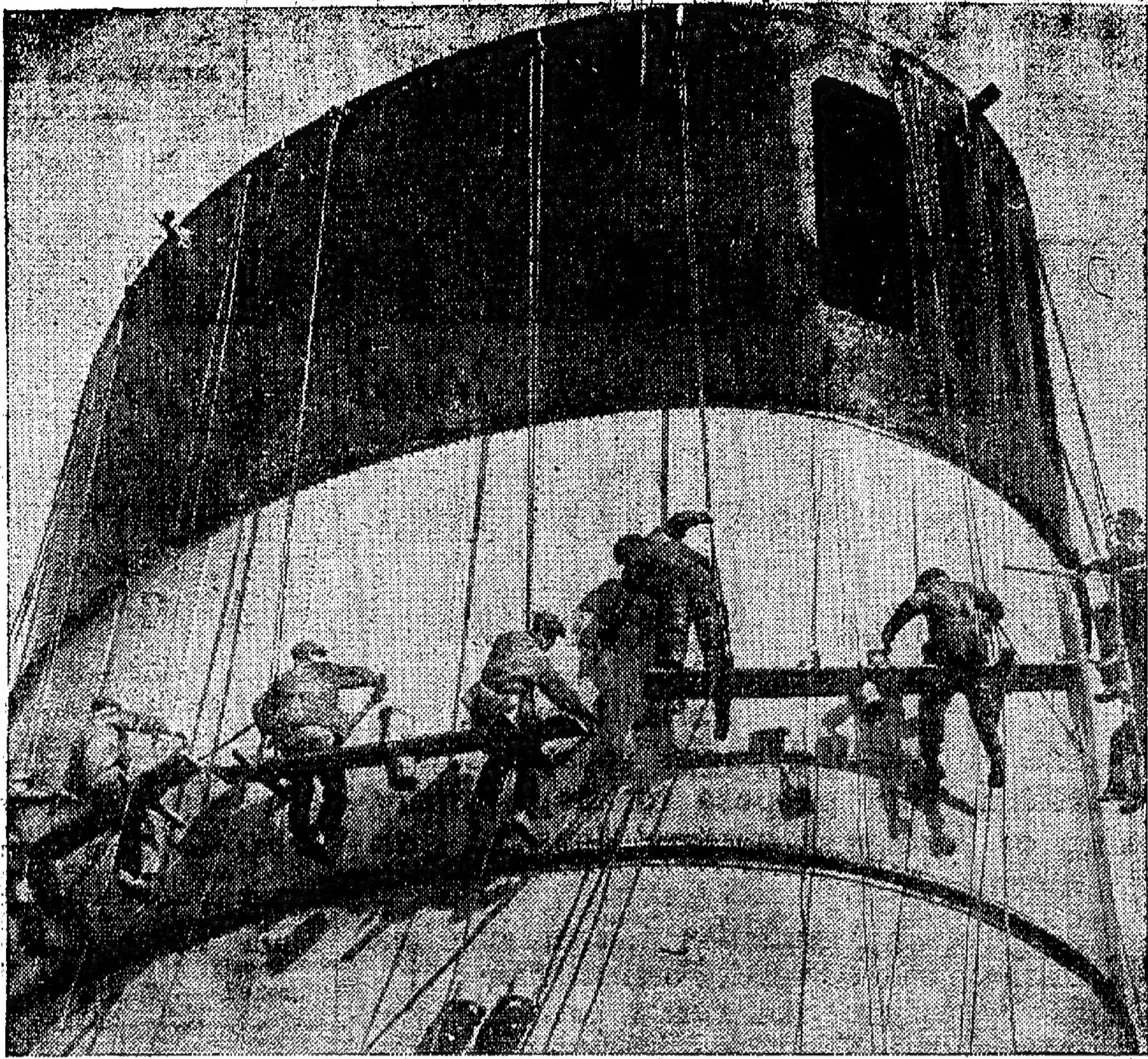
The West German Vice-Chancellor, M. Franz Bluecher, said today that an intensified expert drive, drastic cuts in non-essential imports and compulsory savings were needed to restore West Germany's economy.

He hoped that the recent suspension of import licences in Western Germany would be replaced shortly by a revised list of permitted imports. This would be discussed in advance with the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation.

He denied that Germans were unwilling to save because they distrusted the West German currency or feared war.

"They have got into the habit of spending as they have had to do without goods for so many years," he said. "Now they must get out of it." — Reuter.

GETTING NEW FACE



Working on scaffolds, these maritime painters add a new look to one of the Queen Elizabeth's funnels in Southampton. The liner, known as the biggest ship in the world, is undergoing her annual overhaul in readiness for this year's Festival of Britain.

INDIA WORKING FOR THE FUTURE

Bombay, Mar. 4.

The Indian Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, today attacked the "negative and destructive criticism" of his Government's policies and of his efforts to maintain peace.

Speaking at the inauguration of a milk colony (State-aided cooperative dairy) near Bombay City, Mr. Nehru said: "I do not care tuppence what happens to me as Prime Minister. This does not mean that I shall retire to the Himalayas. I shall continue to work, according to my light, to achieve the objective I have in mind.

"I shall throw my entire strength, physical and mental, into it."

He added that he might perhaps be able to work better if freed from the restrictions of "office protocol" but "this does not mean I am running away from my responsibility."

Deprecating loose talk of war, Mr. Nehru said: "I am amazed that people should be talking in terms of war and criticising me for my effort at peace-making."

"Do they realise that the absence of peace means war, which means the destruction of the world and the future, for which all of us have been working?"

"I do not know if we shall achieve that future."

Of domestic problems, Mr. Nehru said that there were

those who claimed to be Socialists and wanted the Government to socialise everything in the country. They believed that could be achieved by legislation.

"I am as much a Socialist as anybody else, but I am not prepared to follow those who merely talk. What is wanted is action, constructive action," he added.—Reuter.

New York Metals

New York, Mar. 3.
Prices in the metal market here closed today unchanged with the following exceptions:—
Tin, Grade A (\$9.80 per cent or higher) New York, per lb. 18 1/4
Zinc, Prime western, New York, per lb. 19.00
—United Press.

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ALSO LATEST UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL NEWSREEL

India's Prime Minister Affirms Faith In Neutrality

Bombay, Mar. 4.

The Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, today reaffirmed his faith in India's foreign policy of neutrality and perseverance in the cause of peace and said that India was not interested in leading "a third world force."

"I don't understand what people mean by a third force in this divided and troubled world," he said in what was obviously a reply to the Indian Socialist Party's line of foreign policy.

"Do they mean that we should stand up and challenge the rest of the world?"

Mr. Nehru, who was making his third public speech of the day during a flying visit to Bombay, was sharply critical of four elements in the country—"Communists, communalists, destructive oppositionists and the licentious press".

Addressing a cheering crowd of nearly 100,000 at Bombay's Seaface, Mr. Nehru said that he would not have anything to do with Indian Communists.

"Communists follow a policy of destruction amounting to a virtual declaration of war on the Government. I cannot negotiate or come to agreement with them," he stated.

Mr. Nehru roundly condemned the activities of communalists whom he described as "people who want to achieve something by rioting and instigation."

SOCIALIST CRITICS

Mr. Nehru replied to opposition—mainly Socialist—criticisms stating that his Government was engaged in nation-building projects which will benefit coming generations though in that process it had to call for the utmost effort and sacrifice on the part of the people of the present.

He charged certain sections of the press with misusing the grant of civil liberties—a cause which he himself sponsored years ago—and called on responsible sections of the Indian press to curb this tendency.

"I am really worried that people—our opponents, newspapers, even our comrades in the Party (Indian National Congress) think so little and criticise so much," Mr. Nehru complained.

Secret Radio Captured

Hanover, Mar. 4.

The West German police have seized a secret transmitting station mounted on a lorry in the wooded area between Alfeld and Lam-springe, south of Hanover, it was disclosed today.

The authorities believe this was the station long sought by the British as the source of anti-Soviet propaganda and news broadcasts. Two occupants of the lorry, whose names were not released, claimed to be Yugoslavs.—Reuter.

German Approach To Schuman Plan

Bonn, Mar. 4.

The Chancellor, Dr. Konrad Adenauer, said today that further German-American discussions must take place before permitting a compromise formula that will enable it to subscribe to the Schuman plan.

The Chancellor told the United Press he and the U.S. High Commissioner, Mr. John McCloy, would have to meet at least once more—they have held two lengthy discussions on the coal and steel pooling plan in the past two weeks—before a workable formula can be expected.

Mr. McCloy was in Paris today and conferred with M. Jean Monnet, chief French Schuman Plan negotiator.

On his latest meeting with Mr. McCloy, Dr. Adenauer said, "In my conversation with the American High Commissioner I obtained clarification of misunderstandings of various sorts. It nevertheless is necessary to hold further talks on these problems between technical experts and there will be at least one more meeting between me and Mr. McCloy."

The first of the experts' meetings Dr. Adenauer mentioned will take place this week, one of the Chancellor's aides said.—United Press.

De Llano Gravely Ill

Madrid, Mar. 4.

General Gonzalo Queipo de Llano, the "Radio General" of the Spanish Civil War, who has been ill for the past year, was today reported by his doctor to be in a state of collapse.

Last Spring, the 76-year-old General was dangerously ill with heart trouble. At the time General Franco asked specially by telephone to be told about his condition.

De Llano won fame overnight with his almost single-handed capture of Seville for Franco during the 1936 civil war. As Governor of Southern Spain and Commander of the Southern Army, de Llano gave nightly radio talks intended to amuse Nationalist soldiers in the trenches. Later he criticised the Government's policy of permitting German and Italian interference in Spain. In July, 1939, he was deprived of all his military commands and in July, 1942, he was placed on the retired list and sent to forced residence at Malaga.—Reuter.

BUILDING FOR FUTURE

He said, "I want the nation, both pro and anti Government elements, to understand the issues at stake both at home and abroad for we have to come to you at the forthcoming elections for a fresh mandate."

Reviewing the international situation, Mr. Nehru said that almost every country in the world was engaged in speedy rearmament.

Britain and the United States were rearming at a tremendous pace but India was reducing her armed strength.

He added, "We cannot be powerful only by having a bigger army. We must have productive capacity to back our armed strength. Besides, India needs enormous funds to be expended in building for the future."—Reuter.

MOLLET RUNS INTO OBSTACLES

Paris, Mar. 4.

The Socialist leader, M. Guy Mollet, the third man of France's 13th post-war Cabinet crisis, appeared tonight not to have much more chance of forming the next government than the Popular Republican ex-Premier, M. Georges Bidault, who reported failure on Thursday, or than the Radical ex-Premier, M. Henri Queuille who threw his hand in on Friday.

In his consultations with Party leaders, M. Mollet has been taking a somewhat different line to that followed by M. Bidault and M. Queuille.

He has been discussing a social and financial programme and has left in the background the thorny question of electoral reform which led to the collapse of the Plevin Cabinet last Wednesday.

M. Mollet wanted an agreed programme to raise salaries, subsidising coal, fertilisers and newsprint, and new taxes on luxury goods, including scents, spirits, furs and cars to pay for these subsidies. He also proposed a tax on the sales and purchases of gold in the Paris free market.

This programme has already renewed the hostility of the Radicals.

M. Mollet said tonight that he intended giving President Auriol his reply tomorrow at noon.—Reuter.

In a radio address today, M. Mollet said he hoped to be able to report to President Auriol that an agreement had been reached. He would recommend that the electoral issue be tossed back to the Assembly and that in the meantime a government be formed to deal with the urgent problems of inflation and foreign policy free from the political impasse of electoral law.—United Press.

WORLD SOCIALISTS SEEK UNITY

International Organisation Formed At London Conference

Japanese Politicians Among The Delegates

London, Mar. 4.

Thirty-six leaders of 21 Socialist parties all over the world formed a new "Socialist International" at a meeting which ended in London tonight.

Taft Losing Defence Bar Struggle

Washington, Mar. 4. The Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committees will overwhelmingly reject Republican demands that Congress fix a ceiling on the number of American troops that can be sent to Western Europe, a United Press poll disclosed today.

Twenty-one of 26 Committee members said legal limitations in the United States' troop contribution to General Eisenhower's unified Atlantic Pact force would be unworkable. Such limitations have been sought by Senator Taft and other Republican leaders who want Congress to fix not only a ceiling but also a ratio on how many divisions Western Europe itself must raise.

Only one member of the Committees which will vote on the issue this week indicated he would vote for the ration plan, Senator Knowland. Another Senator was undecided and three were unavailable.

There seemed to be no support whatever for the resolution sponsored by Senator Wherry to bar any troop shipments until Congress works out a global defence policy.

The poll disclosed that Republican sentiment appeared increasingly to favour that both House and Senate take formal action authorising United States' participation in General Eisenhower's international army.—United Press.

The new organisation is a successor to the Socialist "Second International" which was smashed by the second world war.

It is a development of the International Socialist Conference which was formed in 1948 as liaison machinery between Socialists all over the world.

This organisation, which was today transformed into the "Socialist International" has the backing of 33 parties with about 10,000,000 members.

The three-day meeting, which ended today, was one of the most representative held since the International Socialist Conference was established.

Dr Adolf Schaerf, Vice-Chancellor of Austria, many members of European Parliaments and two members of the Japanese Parliament were among the delegates.

Represented at the meeting were the Socialist parties of Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Britain, Greece, Holland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Norway, Spain (exiles), Sweden, Switzerland and Trieste.

The text of the resolution which created the Socialist International showed that delegates were anxious that the new organisation shall not be given authority to impose its collective decisions on individual parties which may find themselves in a minority.

"EUROPEAN UNITY"

Working within the new International there will be a council replacing the old Committee of the International Socialist Organisation (COMISCO) and a smaller bureau replacing the old sub-committee of COMISCO.

The Labour Party of Malta has been admitted to the Or-

ganisation and the Indian Socialist Party has indicated that it will join in the near future.

Mr Van der Goes van Naters (Holland) introduced a discussion of European unity at the opening session of the conference, but no final attitude was resolved.

A committee has been asked to examine the problems further before the Council of Europe session next May.

Another resolution protested at recent reprieves of Nazi war criminals.

ARGENTINE TERROR

The conference recorded "indignation at the regime of terror existing in the Argentine".

Dictatorship in that country, the resolution asserted, had evidently increased repression, had eliminated freedom of the press and had attacked trade union and Socialist leaders.

On several other issues the conference reached no agreed conclusions.

A draft statement of the principles of democratic Socialism was referred back to a committee for further consideration but there was no basic disagreement among the delegates.

There was a full discussion on the problem of German rearmament. Most delegates favoured German units in an European army on certain conditions. The French Socialist Party spokesman indicated that his Party was still perturbed about this possibility and would prefer that there should be no rearmament of Germany.—Reuter.

Moscow's Big Five Peace Pact Boost

Paris, Mar. 4.

There is considerable speculation here in connection with the recently adopted resolution of the World Peace Partisans meeting in Berlin urging a five-power peace pact.

Pravda today enthusiastically approved Berlin's approval. It said, "The appeal on the conclusion of a peace pact of the big five powers opened to... people of goodwill a path toward active participation in defence and security of their countries."

"The peace pact answers the aspirations of millions of people in the whole world regardless of their opinions as to the causes of the threat of a world war. If some one introduces the bill in the next session of the Supreme Soviet on that subject, it will be passed unanimously and the Soviet Union may initiate a proposal for a big five peace treaty."

Four leading papers today, including Izvestia and Red Star, in editorials endorsed the appeal for a big five peace pact.—United Press.



Baby Pansy, an 11-month-old gorilla in Cleveland, will be getting a new protector in the future. Brought back to Ohio by a zoo expedition, Baby Pansy has been raised by Dr Wallace Wendt, a veterinarian who has been called up by the Air Force. Now the little gorilla will have to be placed under the care of another physician.

Hirohito's

"Net Worth"

Tokyo, Mar. 4.

According to net worth the tax returns filed by the Japanese Imperial Family at Tokyo's Kojimachi Tax Office showed that the Emperor owns property worth 25,600,000 yen, the newspaper, Mainichi Shimbun, reported today.

On its "net worth" the Imperial Family will have to pay approximately 237,000 yen in tax. About 30,000 persons and organisations will pay more than the Emperor, according to tax officials.

The Emperor's personal property is composed chiefly of bank deposits, jewellery and art objects.

He receives 28 million yen annually from the State as household expenses.—Reuter.

Queen's

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RED SKELTON

ARLENE DAHL
ANN MILLER



Watch The Birdie

HMS Ceylon In Singapore

Singapore, Mar. 4.

The British cruiser Ceylon returned to the Singapore naval base today after five months' service in Korean waters.—Reuter.

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Mounting Output Of Steel In Europe

Geneva, Mar. 4.

According to revised figures published here today by the Steel Section of the Economic Commission for Europe, steel production in Western Europe in 1950 amounted to 52,213,000 metric tons compared with 8,041,000 tons produced by the Eastern European countries (excluding Yugoslavia) and an estimated production in Soviet Russia of 24,000,000 tons.

The Soviet Union produced 20,600,000 tons for the year 1949.

United States steel production for last year stood at 87,736,000 tons, the report added.

The ECE's revised figures estimated that Western Europe's steel production would reach 63,230,000 tons by 1953 as against 10,770,000 tons for the East European countries.

The United States steel production was estimated at over 100,000,000 tons for 1953. No forecast was given for Soviet production in 1953.

British steel production was expected to increase from 16,586,000 tons last year to 18,000,000 tons in 1953. Western German steel production, given as 12,121,000 tons for 1950, was forecast at 13,500,000 tons for 1953.

France was expected to have the largest European increase, jumping from 8,680,000 tons in

1950 to an estimated 14,800,000 tons in 1953.

The ECE Steel Section declared that the total European steel production (excluding the Soviet Union) was expected to reach nearly 75 million tons by 1953.

NOT PERMANENT?

The ECE stated that armament programmes had not been taken into consideration in estimating Europe's steel consumption at 60 million tons for 1953. Normal steel consumption during last year was estimated in excess of 52 million tons.

"Armament programmes cannot be regarded as a permanent outlet for the steel capacity," the report stated. "When the defence programmes are finished, alternative requirements for normal purposes will not necessarily have developed to take their place."—Reuter.

ON GUARD IN SUB-ZERO WEATHER



While travelling in sub-zero weather in South Korea, a UN jeep fords an icy river en route to the front lines. At right is a knocked-out North Korean tank.

7 Dead In Bus Accident

Bogota, Mar. 4.
Seven were killed and 20 injured in a collision last night between a bus crowded with passengers and a lorry. Another died in hospital here today, bringing the death toll to eight.

The bus and the lorry, which was laden with sugar, came into collision at high speed outside Fontibon, near Bogota. Both vehicles were completely wrecked.—Reuter.

Rebel Sampanns Destroyed

Saigon, Mar. 4.
French troops and river patrol units destroyed 44 Communist sampans in a sweep of the southern Red River delta, French military headquarters announced today.

A communique said 15 Viet-minh soldiers were killed in the operation and another 23 Communists killed and 23 captured in skirmishes in Central Indo-China.—United Press.



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Communist Party Losing Members

Washington, Mar. 4.

Mr Homer Byington, Western European Chief of the U.S. Department, declared today that membership of the Communist Party had dropped 30 percent or more in every country of Western Europe since the war and Moscow was losing its battle to take over by "boring from within."

The figures given by Mr Byington in a nationwide broadcast showed that the largest percentage drops, in Communist Party membership since 1946 were in Luxembourg (85 percent), Belgium and Norway (both to 65 percent) and Denmark (63 percent). France had the smallest drop (30 percent). Britain and

Western Germany each showed a reduction of one-third in the party strength. Italy's Communist Party had the largest numerical loss—700,000 from a 1948 Party membership of 2,300,000.

Mr Byington said that his encouraging report was a tribute to the peoples of Western Europe.

Although directly in the path of Communism, he said, they were growing stronger and better able to resist the Communist danger.

"It is also a tribute to the American people who, through the Marshall Plan, and the North Atlantic treaty, have had the courage and the foresight to undertake the responsibility of leadership in preserving a free world," he added.

Mr Byington gave these figures on Communist membership in Western Europe:

(The first group of figures shows membership in 1940, the second the membership today and the third the percentage drop in the various countries).			
Austria	150,000	100,000	34
Belgium	100,000	35,000	65
Britain	60,000	40,000	33
Denmark	60,000	22,500	63
France	850,000	600,000	30
Italy	2,300,000	1,600,000	31
(1948 figures)			
Luxembourg	3,000	500	84
Netherlands	50,000	33,000	34
Norway	40,000	14,000	65
Sweden	60,000	33,000	45
West Germany	30,000	20,000	34

—Reuter.

British Jet Fighters For Korea?

Tokyo, Mar. 4.

Britain may soon send jet fighters to the Korean war, according to high Royal Air Force sources here tonight.

These sources said that the Commander of the RAF Transport Command, Sir Aubrey Ellwood, who is now in Tokyo, had already discussed with Air Vice-Marshal Cecil Bouchier, senior British official at General MacArthur's Headquarters, the possibility of diverting to Korea 50 jet fighters now in Malaya.

Meanwhile, Sir Aubrey was believed to be studying a possible route between the United Kingdom and Japan for ferrying the jet fighters here.

RAF sources said that though British jet aircraft participation would be welcomed by the Americans—now the sole jet aircraft operators in Korea—their material contribution was not so much considered by the British Air Ministry as the valuable "live" testing and training facilities provided by the Korean battle-ground.

The Australian Government announced in December that it would soon re-equip the Australian Mustang fighter squadron with British Meteor jet planes.—Reuter.

Polyglot Ship

Sydney, Mar. 4.

The 10,000-ton freighter Sakura, recently arrived on her maiden voyage, is considered the most polyglot ship ever to put in here. Registered in Liberia, the Sakura has Norwegian officers, a Japanese chief engineer, and a British Guiana crew.

The ship was designed by an American firm and built in Japan with engines of German design.—United Press.

U.S. PLANNING MORE HELP FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA

Colombo, Mar. 4.

The United States plans more help for countries in South Asia, said Mr George McGhee, American Assistant Secretary of State, here today.

He was telling reporters about the conference which ended at Ceylon's hill station Nuwara Eliya yesterday of American diplomats in the Middle and Far East.

But until the United States Congress had taken action on the proposed aid he could not give any more details, he added.

Mr McGhee said that the diplomats, who came from Colombo, Kabul, Karachi, Katmandu, New Delhi, Bangkok, Djakarta, London, Manila, Rangoon, Teheran and Saigon, were pleased that India and Pakistan had made a trade agreement and settled the question of the exchange value of the Pakistan rupee and they hoped that Afghanistan and Pakistan would soon settle their differences.

The United States supported the Commonwealth Colombo Plan to help Asian countries and any United States help would be in addition to it.

If Congress approved the gift of 2,000,000 tons of wheat for which grain-hungry India had asked, it would constitute a significant illustration of American contribution to the fulfilment of the plan.

"Counterpart funds derived from the sale of any grain that might be provided would be available for use in the project for Indian economic development," Mr McGhee said.

PARAMOUNT PROBLEM

The conference reviewed United Nations action in Korea and felt that Communism was the paramount problem in Asia.

The delegates noted that South Asian countries were becoming increasingly conscious of the menace of Communism to their independence.

"Unfortunately, however, there still exist strong elements in South Asia which either fail to recognise this threat or face up to it," he added.

Mr McGhee said that the development of sound and friendly relations with countries in the region was one of the basic objectives in the United States' foreign policy and it was hoped that these countries and the United States would consult each other on an even more intimate and friendly basis.—Reuter.

Painless Extraction—Almost

Hollywood, Mar. 4.

Getting a tooth filled may be a silent and almost painless process soon.

Harold Mortenson, representing a dental manufacturing company in Philadelphia, told the Florida State Dental Society that a new process is being tried in dental schools now.

The pain of the drill and heat on the tooth is eliminated with a new abrasive technique. The tooth is prepared for a filling by use of a tiny nozzle that blows a stream of carbon dioxide carrying small particles of aluminium oxide against the decayed surface. The carbon dioxide keeps the tooth cool and the aluminium oxide cuts away the decayed portion.

"We do not claim that this method is absolutely painless," Mortenson said. "But in a majority of cases the air-brasive technique causes no pain at all."

Dr Helmut A. Zander of Tufts Dental School told the convention delegates that addition of sodium fluoride to city drinking water has decreased tooth decay by 30 percent among school children.—United Press.

ATOM BOMB THE KEY TO PEACE

Washington, Mar. 4.

Dr Vannier Bush, World War II science mobiliser, said today that the United States could destroy Russia with atom bombs if war broke out soon. For that reason the Soviet leaders were afraid to start World War III.

He warned, however, that the deterrent effect of the atom bomb would not avert a war forever and said the United States and the free world must build even stronger defences. The way to do this, he added, is to mass "an Allied army in Europe capable of holding a defensive line and stopping the Russian hordes if they should ever start and so dissuading them from ever starting."

Dr Bush's speech was the first in a series of talks sponsored by the "Committee on the Present Danger," a group of prominent Americans supporting a strong defence policy.

Dr Bush said the key to the peace was the atom bomb. "If Russia sent its armies across the German plains tomorrow we, with our A-bombs and planes to carry them, would destroy Russia. We would do it without question as matters stand today. We could destroy not only key centres from which her armies would be supplied but also political centres and the communications of armies on the march."—United Press.

Blistering Attack On Tin Control

Washington, Mar. 4.

The Senate Preparedness Sub-committee proposed in a survey today that the United States stop buying tin abroad until some of America's allies cease their price "gouging."

The survey said: "We are no longer in a position where we must buy tin at any price," adding there is more tin in the United States now than at the time of Pearl Harbour.

In a blistering report analysing domestic and world tin supplies, the sub-committee noted that "control" of most of the world's tin reserves is held by a "relatively few British, Dutch, Belgian and Bolivian corporations with interlocking connections across national boundaries."

For thirty years, the report said, these producers have joined to restrict production so as to guarantee satisfactory prices. It said "frantic" speculation has driven tin price to nearly \$2 per pound from the 75-cent price just before the Korean war.

The sub-committee called on the State Department to get the non-Communist world to allocate tin supplies and fix prices "so we are not gouged by mine owners and speculators in producing countries and elsewhere for the privilege of defending them."—United Press.

YUGOSLAV MILITARY POTENTIAL

Capable Of Defence Against Combined Satellite Forces

But Could Not Take On The Russian Army

Belgrade, March 4.

Marshal Tito's Army, the largest in Europe outside Russia, continues to be capable of defending Yugoslavia's borders against the combined forces of her Soviet satellite neighbours, according to informed Yugoslav circles.

The Army, with its 30 divisions, would not, however, be able to defend these frontiers against the four satellites backed by substantial forces of the Red Army.

But Red Army intervention, these same circles believe, even on the Chinese model as "volunteers," would bring speedy Western reaction and World War III.

For this reason, they discount the possibility of a repetition of the Korean war in this country, at least during the coming year. They believe that if an attack came, it would be more likely to come as part of the war against the West.

Faced with the combined forces of Russia and her South-East European satellites, the Yugoslavs would withdraw into the mountain strongholds in the southern half of the country whence Marshal Tito and his partisan guerilla fighters held out so successfully against vastly superior Axis forces throughout the last war.

Since this would mean abandoning Belgrade and the flat fertile Vojvodina plain, the country's breadbasket, Marshal Tito's continued survival would depend on support in arms and supplies from the West.

These, if the struggle were extended to other parts of Europe, might not easily be forthcoming.

Another question being asked not only here but in other parts of the world is:

SIDE WITH WEST

What would Marshal Tito do if the Russians in a war against the West deliberately by-passed Yugoslavia, perhaps in order to deal with her at leisure later? Would he remain neutral?

Marshal Tito, in his latest answer to this question, given to the United States Congressman, Mr Joseph F. Kennedy, is regarded as implying that he would side with the West.

He said that in such an eventuality, Yugoslavia would carry out her obligations towards the United Nations.

In practical terms, this might not mean very much since the Yugoslavs, even if they were willing, do not consider themselves strong enough to carry the war into satellite territory.

The Yugoslav armed forces may be able to take on Rumania, Hungary, Bulgaria and Albania together at the moment. But this will not continue to be so indefinitely.

ABOUT EQUAL

The graph of satellite rearmament with Russian aid is rising steeply, while that of Yugoslavia, which relies on its own small armaments industry, is level or even falling slightly as irreplaceable wartime equipment wears out.

At present the two sides are about level; but eventually the satellites will be ahead.

Even so, according to the more optimistic of informed Western observers here, it will be between one and two years before they are strong enough successfully to take on Yugoslavia alone and in view of the difficult terrain they will need three or four times as many men.

At present, the Yugoslav armed forces, excluding police and security units, are believed to total about 400,000 men. Full mobilisation would probably bring this total to about 900,000 men.

According to Marshal Tito's estimate, which some Western observers consider exaggerated, Bulgaria, Rumania and Hungary have at present a total of 660,000 men (195,000 for Bulgaria, 300,000 for Rumania and 165,000 for Hungary) under arms in all the three services in spite of the peace treaties, which limit their total forces to about 275,000.

Full mobilisation might more than double this figure. Little Albania, the smallest of the Soviet satellites, would produce another 40,000 men.

MODERN METHODS

Some informed Western observers believe that the Yugoslavs are superior to the satellites in training and morale.

Most of the Western Military Attaches who visited a Yugoslav Infantry training school at Sarajevo recently and attended mountain warfare exercises were impressed by the Yugoslav Army's performance.

Training seemed for the most part to be well up to modern Western standards and some of the methods employed even above that standard. There also seemed to be a good spirit between officers and men based on rigid discipline when on duty combined with a degree of democracy when off.

The officers met were well informed and extremely interested in the Korean war and appeared to be wholeheartedly on the side of the United Nations, to whom they referred as "we."

They were particularly interested in tank tactics, using two or three tanks in support of infantry as practised by the Americans in the Korean mountains—presumably because they see in this the type of tactic they themselves would have

to use in the event of another war.

The Yugoslav Army's main weakness is armament. It possesses only a hotch potch of wartime German, Soviet and other Allied weapons and equipment, and owing to Marshal Tito's political scruples has so far relied on local industries for replacements.

Informed observers here believe that if the Army is to remain a match for the satellites in the future, weapons will sooner or later have to be obtained from the West.

So far, apart from some minor purchases from one or two Western European armaments firms, no steps have been taken in this direction.

A particularly weak spot is armour. The Yugoslav Army is believed to have two armoured brigades with probably no more than 200 to 250 battle-worthy tanks in all.

A portion of these are the latest model Soviet T-34 tanks, armed with 85-mm guns. They also have a few German Tiger tanks.

In addition, five home-produced T-34-type tanks were paraded during the May Day celebrations last year, and though more are said to have been produced since, the rate of production cannot, it is thought, be very high.

The Yugoslav Air Force probably has no more than 500 aircraft of various types, of which perhaps 150 are last-war piston-engine fighters.—Reuter.

Talks On Ruhr

Paris, Mar. 4.

Mr John McCloy, American High Commissioner in Germany, and several of his political advisers had day-long talks here today with M. Jean Monnet, head of the French delegation to the Schuman Plan.

Mr McCloy flew in specially from Frankfurt this morning and left by air for Frankfurt shortly after 5 p.m.

Mr McCloy told Reuters at the end of the meeting, "There is essential agreement between the German, French and American viewpoints on decartelisation of German Ruhr industries. The difficulty arises when you start applying these general agreements. This is a purely technical but involved question, and this is what M. Monnet and I have been discussing all day. You cannot do that sort of thing on the telephone".—Reuter.



WALKING HAT SHOP—Progress-minded merchants in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, are stimulating the sale of native-made hats by hiring roving sales girls with heads stacked high with merchandise. A hat sells for about fifty cents soaking wet; a wet straw hat is pliable and quickly dries on the head for a perfect head-size fit.

Yugoslav Leaders Express Optimism

Belgrade, Mar. 4.

M. Moshe Pijade, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Yugoslav Presidium and a prominent Politburo member, said today that though Yugoslavia had joined no pacts she is less isolated today than she was ever before.

"Not only the Governments of the Western countries have expressed their readiness to help us in case of aggression, but also the people of these countries are ready to help us," he added.

The Soviet Government had wanted to isolate Yugoslavia, but instead they stood today unmasked before the whole world as the real aggressor."

M. Pijade was addressing a crowd of nearly 200,000 in Belgrade's principal square, the Square of the Republic, in a pre-election speech for the National Assembly of Serbia, one of the six Constituent Republics of Yugoslavia.

Recalling that in their recent

note to Britain, the Soviet Government had spoken of Yugoslavia as having aggressive designs against Hungary, M. Pijade asked:

"Does this mean that Hungary will get the honour of playing some special role in the aggression? But if they give them this honour they should also prescribe to them what will follow from our side."

Addressing the crowd earlier, Colonel-General Koča Pećovich, Marshal Tito's Chief of Staff, said he thought that Yugoslavia was now in a stronger position than before since the Russian attempts to isolate her had finally failed.—Reuter.

NANCY

Mark-up Price



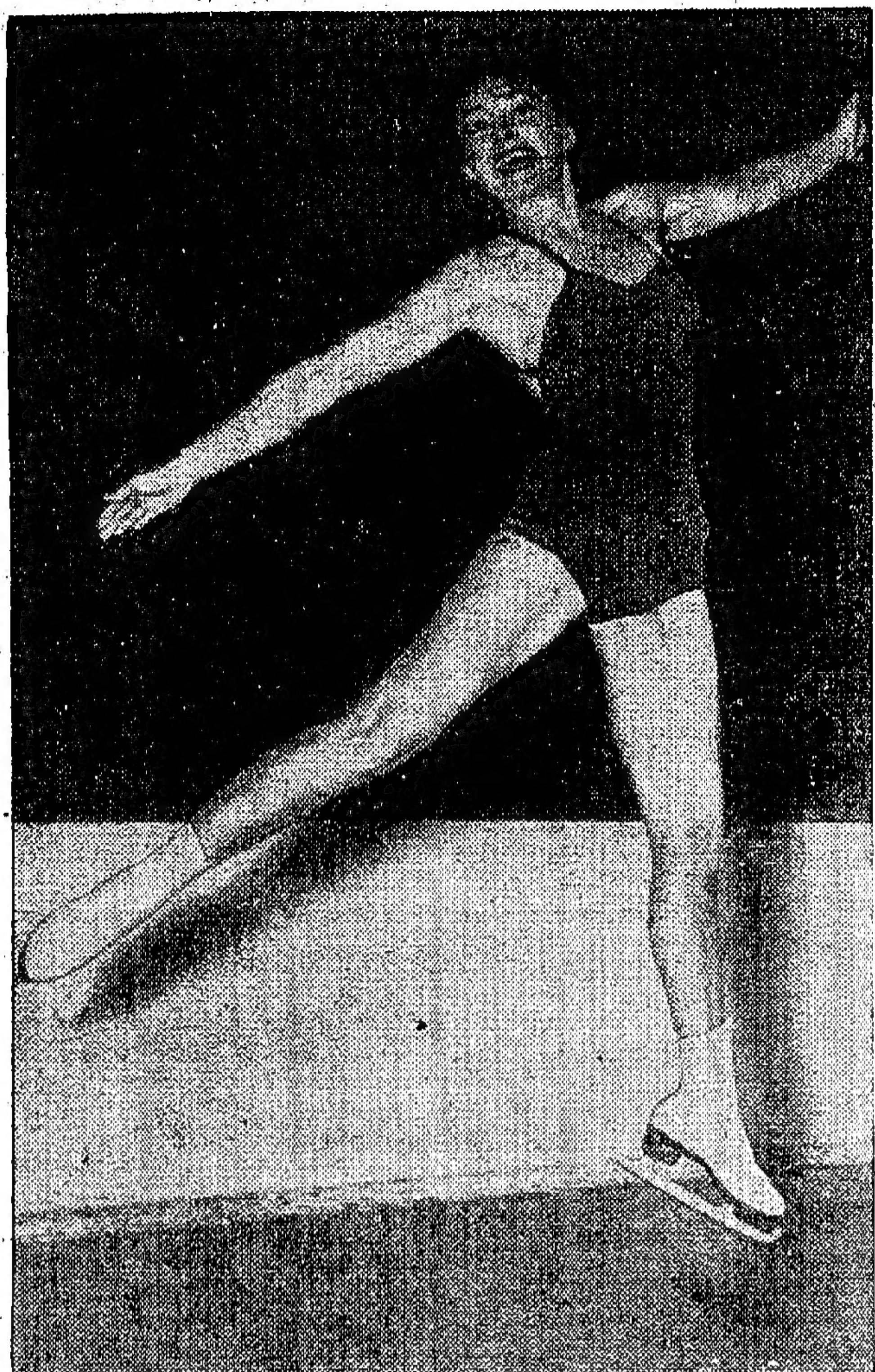
Don't let this HAPPEN to you!

USE **Fitch's** BANDRUFF REMOVER SHAMPOO

Sole Agents **NAN KANG CO.** H.K.

By Ernie Bushmiller

IT ISN'T THAT COLD



Showing plenty of form in Miami, Florida, is Irene Van Dyke, as she executes an ice skating leap. Bathing beauties are enjoying a new fad in the resort city this winter; skating in their bathing suits which is something their northern sisters can't do these days.

Amateurs Get More Out Of Football Says ARCHIE QUICK

A wide gulf separates amateur and professional association football, in the standard of play, of course, but also in the behind-the-scenes hospitality and friendship. The Amateur Cup Third round replay between Wimbledon and Tooting and Mitcham was a typical example.

After a professional match, the players bath, dress and are gone, their officials with them. Not so in the unpaid game. After the match, the two teams, their wives, sweethearts and friends sit down to a meal, generally a hot one, in the clubhouse, and after that there is fraternizing over the bar, and darts, cards, etc.

The officials get together too, and we see the real spirit of sport. It happened at Wimbledon; it is duplicated at Dulwich, Barnet, Hendon, Finchley and in hundreds of other pavilions all over the country.

NO KID GLOVE AFFAIR

And this Wimbledon-Mitcham and Tooting tie had been no kid glove affair. It went to extra time and ended indefinitely at 2-2 after 3½ hours' play. It was contested in thunder and lightning, a gale of wind, and drenching rain on a quagmire that had been declared unfit the previous Saturday.

No quarter was asked or given by either side, and four players finished limping badly, but afterwards there were smiles and handshakes all round, happy inquests and chatter about the second replay which went to Tooting on the toss of a coin.

Despite the weather, there was a crowd of 8,000, while the car park and array of motors in adjoining streets compared favourably with any professional gathering. There is no doubt that amateur soccer is making an ever bigger appeal every season, and this I think can be traced to the gradual return to prewar standards in leagues like the Isthmian and the Athenian.

By tradition, the Isthmian League has always been considered the better, but time and again in recent years Athenians have beaten Isthmians in cup-ties, the Athenian League representation in the latter stages of this season's FA Amateur Cup competition speaks for itself.

Athenians also won the Inter-League match between the two last season.

Much as it goes against the grain as an old Isthmian player, I feel that the Athenians are now the superior combination. They are getting a greater proportion of places in metropolitan and County representative games, too.

The Isthmian League officials resist the suggestion, but the facts cannot be denied. One famous FA administrator said to me at Wimbledon: "Walthamstow Avenue lost last Saturday's Amateur Cup tie with Hendon three years ago when they changed from the Isthmian to the Athenian. They are now used to playing at a slower tempo and have lost their speed."

Tommy Farr Still Wants Title Fight

London, Mar. 4. Tommy Farr, former British Heavyweight Boxing Champion, has been matched with Denis Powell, of North Wales, by the Welsh Area Council of the British Boxing Board of Control for the Welsh Heavyweight title. Powell is the present title-holder. Farr, who won the title in 1936, has stated: "It gives me no satisfaction to beat one of my own countrymen unless it improves my chances of meeting the British Champion."

Farr explained that he had all to lose and nothing to gain by meeting Powell and that it was his plan to fight for the British title this year.—Reuter.

EAST MIDLANDS WILL PLAY MIDDLESEX IN THE COUNTY RUGBY FINAL

By PETER LOVEGROVE

You may have seen pictures of the traditional Eton Wall Game, with mud-caked lads slithering over each other in untidy heaps with the greatest enthusiasm. Well, that hardy annual is as neat and trim as a Vicarage garden party compared to the mudlark I witnessed at Twickenham.

We have been having more than our quota of English weather lately, and I have never seen this famous ground in a more deplorable condition. Within a few minutes of the kick-off the beautiful turf was transformed into a sea of treacherous slush, with one large tract of the pitch almost a quagmire, in which it was a veritable feat to keep balance.

Very soon the players, particularly the forwards, became quite unrecognisable, and the ball turned to a soggy mess which could neither be held nor passed—or kicked any distance.

To add to the gaiety of the proceedings it was bitterly cold, and a blinding sleet and hail storm occurred midway through the second half, but the players battled through it all.

The occasion was the Rugby Union County Championship semi-final replay between Middlesex and Yorkshire, and I consider that in fairness to both sides the game might well have been postponed, as several other games in London were.

However, there was such a hold-up in fixtures during December and so many replays have been necessary in the competition already that it might have been difficult to find another date which did not prejudice the chances of either County, who contribute several players to International and Inter-Service games.

It was a depressing introduction to Twickenham for Yorkshire, playing there for the first time in the County's history, and they went down by nine points to five after one of the most ferocious forward battles the competition has ever seen.

ISSUE IN THE BALANCE

The lead changed hands twice and the issue was in the balance until the last ten minutes when the marked weight advantage held by the Middlesex forwards asserted itself.

The home XV went ahead with a penalty goal brilliantly kicked by A. A. Grimsdell, 6ft. 4 in. son of the old Tottenham soccer wing-half star, after 10 minutes, but Yorkshire quickly

adapted themselves the better to the atrocious conditions.

Lieut. E. P. Hardy (Duke of Wellington's Regiment, the Army and England) kicked high and hard for the line every time he got the ball, and the forwards harried the home backs into errors.

A try by D. B. Vaughan, the Royal Navy and England back row forward, who pounced on a hesitant defence after a loose maul, brought them level, and N. L. Wright turned it into a goal and two point lead.

It was only the brilliance of Pat Sykes, the Wasps' scrum-half, which enabled Middlesex to nose ahead. Sykes, out of favour with the England selectors these days, slipped away on the blind side of a tight scrum just before the interval and had dived over the line before the surprised Yorkshire backs realised the ball had even been heeled.

The visitors continued to have the better of the kicks and loose rushes until the Middlesex forwards staged a tremendous rally in the closing stages, and then it was all over but the shouting. Yorkshire gallantly held them up time and again within yards of

their line, but just on time D. C. Shields barged and slithered his way through for the final score.

FINAL ON MARCH 10

Middlesex, with five Internationals and three Trial players, led by that most aggressive and determined of Harlequins, John Matthews, now take on East Midlands in the final at Northampton on March 10.

The Midlanders, who derive their strength entirely from the Bedford and Northampton clubs, are foes worthy of the Southerners' mettle. They surprisingly failed before Cheshire in the final last year but are resolute not to make the same mistake twice.

Their progress through the competition has not been an easy one. They only won their division after a furious replay with Warwickshire, their traditional opponents, and it took them two games to get the better of Gloucestershire in the semi-final.

They too had to battle through rain, wind and mud in disposing of the West Countrymen, but tries by John Hyde, the Army and England winger, and centre three-quarter A. C. Towell, forthright work by their well-disciplined and fast moving pack, and beautiful touch-finding by outside half R. H. Haynes pulled them through. It is seventeen years since they last won the Championship, while Middlesex have to go back to 1929 for their last success.

Leslie Ames Hits Up A Century

Bombay, Mar. 4.

A brilliant innings of 116 runs not out by Leslie Ames, his third century of the tour, helped to put the Commonwealth touring cricket team in a commanding position against the Prime Minister's XI today.

On the second day of the four-day charity match, the Commonwealth scored 505 runs for five wickets declared and then dismissed the Prime Minister's XI for 173.

Following on 332 runs behind, the home side scored 17 runs for no wicket and finished 315 runs behind.

The Australian, Bruce Dooland, who scored 63 not out, helped Ames in an unbroken sixth wicket stand which produced 174 runs in two and a quarter hours.

Ames delighted the holiday crowd of 10,000 with some merry hitting and the Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, joined in the cheering when the 500 was raised 15 minutes after lunch.

The home side failed against accurate bowling and tight fielding and were dismissed with little trouble. Vijay Merchant made the top score of 42 runs before falling into Dooland's trap and being bowled by an outswinger. Dooland took three wickets for 47 runs.—Reuter.

4 Old Blues To Row For Cambridge

London, Mar. 4.

Four Old Blues are included in the Cambridge University crew to row against Oxford University in the annual boat race over four and a quarter miles from Putney to Mortlake on March 24.

They are C.B.M. Lloyd, President of the Cambridge University Boat Club, D. M. Jennens and H. Almond, both of whom rowed last year, and W. A. Windham, who rowed in 1947.

The crew, announced by Lloyd, who is the first Australian to be President of the C.U.B.C., will be (in rowing order) bow H. R. Almond (Lady Margaret), 2—D. D. Macklin (Lady Margaret), 3—J. G. P. Crowden (Pembroke), 4—R. F. A. Sharpley (Lady Margaret), 5—E. J. Worlidge (Lady Margaret), 6—C. B. M. Lloyd (Lady Margaret), 7—W. A. D. Windham (Christ), stroke—D. M. Jennens (Clare), cox—J. F. K. Hindle (Pembroke).

Jennens stroked the winning 1949 crew. Cambridge University are slight favourites to win for the fifth successive year.—Reuter.

English Soccer Team To Tour Australia

London, Mar. 4.

Several Internationals are included in the Football Association team to tour Australia next summer. Of the 17 players named, only Langton has played for England this season but Broome and Hagan are former Internationals.

The team will leave England by air on May 7 and return on July 30. The tour may include games in New Zealand.

This is the first all-professional tour of Australia.

The team is as follows: E. Burgin (Sheffield United), S. Bartram (Charlton Athletic), H. Bramford (Bristol Rovers), J. McCue (Stoke City), F. Lock (Charlton Athletic), R. Flewin (Portsmouth), S. Owen (Luton), F. Mitchell (Chelsea), J. Shaw (Sheffield United), F. Broome (Notts County), G. Hurst (Charlton Athletic), H. Webster (Bolton Wanderers), W. Smith (Birmingham), I. Clarke (Portsmouth), J. Sewell (Notts County), H. Hagan (Sheffield United), and R. Langton (Bolton Wanderers).

Flewin will be the player-manager. A further centre-half may be chosen later.—Reuter.

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN BRITAIN NEEDS WAY OUT OF CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES

(OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Mar. 4.

The Labour Government has suffered two week-end defeats in succession. The second of these, last Friday, was on a private member's motion criticising the Government for not stockpiling vital commodities and for not making more use of private traders to ensure continuity of supplies.

Members listened to a long statement by Mr Harold Wilson, President of the Board of Trade, in which he outlined the raw material situation with special reference to the now critical shortage of sulphur.

At the end of it Conservative members were still far from satisfied that the Government was doing all in its power to build up the nation's stocks of those commodities which will be most necessary to enable the rearmament programme to be carried out.

It would be dangerously easy to join in the condemnation of the Government but what we desperately need now is not rearmament, tempting though that might be, on purely political grounds but a way out of a situation that is becoming more critical for every day action is delayed.

So far as the merits of private trading are concerned Mr Wilson pointed out quite justifiably that commodities for which there are free markets have experienced the same rise in price as those which are bought on Government account.

It might be added that if the Government is to blame for not starting to accumulate stocks before shortages and high prices overtook it, private businessmen were no more prescient. Industrial stocks generally are below what is considered a normal level, and this applies just as much to commodities which are "freely" available in world markets.

Mr Wilson pointed out that when goods were available, dollars were not, and when the dollar position improved, the commodities were not there. But this only applies to commodities which are bought in the dollar area. The Government's critics are on safer ground when they blame the Government for not building up a stockpile of those commodities of which the sterling countries are the principal producers and which it is now belatedly trying to acquire.

THE QUESTION

There can be no doubt that the Government was, until political events overtook it, more concerned with building up dollar reserves than with building up commodity reserves. It is now being criticised for not still having the cake it has already eaten.

The Government has already announced that £140,000,000 is to be spent on stockpiling in the year 1951-52. This is to be divided between the Ministry of Food, the Ministry of Supply and the Board of Trade. But the mere fact of setting aside money for accumulating a strategic stockpile does not add a single day's supply to our depleted stocks. The question is not so much whether we have the money as whether supplies will be available for us to buy.

Even if the total amount to be spent on stockpiling could be used for acquiring commodities we would most like to put by, we would still have only a pitifully small reserve to fall back on in the event of war. The fact must be faced that if war comes the free world might be cut off from some sources of vital raw materials and the acquisition of others would become even more difficult than it is today (although in total war, expense would no longer be a deterrent).

We could, if it is true, build up a useful stock of raw materials by further restricting civilian consumption but there are strong reasons why the Government is hesitating to do this. For one

thing, civilian consumption of certain commodities has already been restricted to make greater supplies available to industries engaged in rearmament work. To extend these controls would undoubtedly cause some unemployment, and the present Government could hardly do this without inviting criticism from its own supporters.

NO ALTERNATIVE

But the real reason why the "civilian" producer cannot be entirely deprived of those raw materials of which shortages exist is in simple fact that the country is not at war. One often hears it said that if we managed to do these things through five years of total war why on earth can't we do them now that we are at peace? The answer is simply that we are (technically at least) at peace. Much can be done in wartime that no government would contemplate doing in peacetime. Nevertheless the present situation leaves no alternative to greater use of controls to limit civilian consumption of raw materials that are urgently needed for the rearmament programme and stockpiling purposes.

Turning to the problem of obtaining supplies of raw materials for the stockpile (that is, assuming these same raw materials have been obtained in sufficient quantities to ensure a steady outflow of defence equipment, which is by no means something that can be taken for granted) we find that there are very few commodities which are in anything like adequate supply.

So far as foods are concerned (and food has the lion's share of the money set aside for stockpiling) "The Economist" says that cocoa, sugar and possibly wheat alone among the staple foodstuffs are likely to be available in large quantities this year. These three commodities alone could hardly be said to constitute a strategic stockpile of food.

On the raw material side practically every metal is in varying degrees of shortage. Such metals as copper, zinc, nickel, tungsten, chrome, molybdenum and some other alloy metals will be extremely difficult to obtain but without sufficient reserves of these materials the country cannot feel adequately prepared for the worst that could happen.

EMBARGO POINTLESS

Little could be obtained for our own stockpile by banning exports of raw materials to the iron curtain countries. Except for rubber the amounts of raw materials which we export to these countries are very small and we would probably stand to lose more than we would gain from an all-out trade embargo.

The Government's hopes now seem to be concentrated on the outcome of the various commodity groups which are being set up in Washington. If something can be done to ensure a more equitable distribution of available supplies among the

free nations by a reduction in American stockpiling these hopes may yet be realised. Failing that, the building up of strategic reserves can only be accompanied by further restrictions on civilian consumption—a deprivation which would inevitably be borne for the most part by the home market—or in competition with other stockpiling authorities—thus giving the impetus to another inflationary price spiral.

STOCK EXCHANGE

Rubbers provided the week's highlight in the Stock Exchange. The boom started on Thursday and gained such momentum that prices went ahead by as much as three and four shillings. Jobbers were unable to keep up with the rush to buy and were soon short of stock, leaving them no alternative but to raise prices still further to bring in sellers.

Other commodity shares continued their advance. Sisal gains have been fully held on the higher price of the commodity and the benefits gained by the change of domicile.

Gilt-edged made gains and steel stock ended the week at its highest level. Several Colonial borrowers are awaiting an opportunity to enter the market but it is believed they will hold off until the market has been "groomed."

Grain Price In Chicago

Chicago, Mar. 3.
Prices of grain futures closed here today as follows:—

WHEAT	
Spot	2.39 1/4
March	2.41 1/4
May	2.45 1/2-1/4
July	2.41 3/4-1/4
September	2.42 1/2
December	2.45 1/4

CORN	
Spot	1.48 1/2
March	1.78 1/4
May	1.81 1/2-3/4
July	1.82 1/2
September	1.79 1/2-3/4
December	1.70

RYE	
May	1.87 1/4
July	1.84 1/2-1/4

OATS	
March	1.00 3/4
May	98 3/4

New York Flour—per 200 lb. sack.
\$13.10.—United Press.



"I'm taking Philosophy, Psychology, Palaeontology—and Squares Bashing!"

TWO STARS WHOM ARTHUR RANK ABANDONED

By WILLIAM DRURY

Calling two stars whom J. Arthur Rank abandoned on a scrap-heap. An American movie-maker, strolling that way, picked them up, dusted them off, and shipped them over the seas to Darryl Zanuck.

Now they return in triumph to England, with seven-year contracts in their pockets, and the pleasing thought in their minds that Zanuck, Czar of 20th Century-Fox, is already trumpeting that Michael Rennie and Constance Smith are Hollywood's new discoveries.

Constance Smith, black-haired and blue-eyed, has arrived in London to appear with Tyrone Power in "House in the Square," a new Fox film based on the play "Berkeley Square." Rennie, dark and gaunt, is to co-star with Power in the same picture.

Who is Constance Smith? She was an Irish working-girl who, because she bore some slight resemblance to Hedy Lamarr, won a contest at a cinema in Dublin. The prize was a trip to London and a contract with Rank.

CHARM SCHOOL

The contract meant Charm School and no films. Then Jean Negulescu, director of "The Mudlark," gave her a tiny part. She was the servant who discovered the "mudlark" under the Queen's dinner-table.

For her work in that Zanuck put her in "Poison Pen" with Charles Boyer and Linda Darnell... and Michael Rennie.

Before Hollywood there had been little for Rennie to boast about. No one could take much pride in "The Wicked Lady" or "The Root of All Evil," made for Rank. Or in Val Guest's cheap-budget productions, "Miss Pilgrim's Progress" and "The Body Said No," with Yolande Donlan.

Now Hollywood lies at his feet. When he returns there after the Tyrone Power picture he will have stars like Darnell, Grable, Tierney, and June Haver to play opposite him.

A star looks down (his nose) at the movies. Eric Portman, star of 20 films, in a broadcast recently: "I took to haunting the local theatre. It's a cinema now, and Halifax should be ashamed of that fact."

Mr Portman's next film: The story of William Friese-Green, inventor of the movies.

IT'S BRITISH

What's all this fuss about song-plugging on the radio? There's no such thing. The BBC says so. The Corporation has an agreement with song-publishers which firmly declares that no tune may be broadcast more than three times a day in each programme.

So, even if the Third Programme admitted the existence of a reindeer called Rudolf, that animal still couldn't raise its repulsive voice more than nine times a day, every day, every week. Doesn't that make you happy?

It would please our own song-smiths if a few more British tunes could be heard on the air. Such encouragement is only for Americans. I seem to recall Sam Costa once grumbling that he couldn't get near the Palladium for American acts. But, like Richard Attenborough, as soon as he became

a disc-jockey he showed a remarkable preference for American records rather than British.

One song, heard again and again, is making a lot of money as an American novelty, yet it is neither novel nor American. "The Thing" is an old British Army song of the kind which would make any soldier grin and any padre blush.

WOTCHER, LIL!

Those know-alls who, by talking Cockney out of the corner of their mouths, like to think they are mimicking the late Lillian Baylis, "mother" of the Old Vic, will have a shock when they hear how Dame Edith Evans interprets her voice in the Old Vic film which Herbert Wilcox is making.

Dame Edith knew Lillian Baylis well. It makes her wince to hear these Cockney caricatures of the lovable tyrant who, for 39 years, ran that oasis of culture in the Waterloo-road. She can produce proof that Lillian Baylis spoke good, plain English, with neither Oxford nor Oton accent.

The Old Vic has lent Dame Edith a gramophone record of the much-maligned voice. She is playing it over and over again, studying every inflection for her part in the film.

Old Vic star Miles Malleon is writing the script for Wilcox. He will also play an old stage-door keeper.

INCIDENTALLY...

Expect these stars in Britain in March: Van Heflin, to co-star with Mai Zetterling and Richard Attenborough in "Pietra" for Raymond Stross.... Victor Mature, Robert Mitchum, and Faith Domergue, to make "Blackbeard the Pirate" for RKO.

Gracie Fields has joined the BBC immortals, an honour reserved for few. Her Christmas Party broadcast is to be preserved for all time in "The Archives," a kind of Poets' Corner at Broadcasting House, always mentioned in hushed and revered tones, with hat over heart.

STANDARD BRIDGE

By M. Harrison-Gray

Dealer: South.
North-South game.

N.		S.	
♠	K Q 6 2	♠	A 9 7 6 4
♥	8	♥	8 6 4
♦	10 7 3	♦	J 10 4 3 2
♣	K Q 9 7 5	♣	A J 8 5 4
W.	♠ 10 9 7 3	W.	♠ A 9 7 6 4
E.	♠ 5 2	E.	♠ 8 6 4
	♠ Q J 9 5		♠ J 10 4 3 2
	♠ A 8 6		♠ A J 8 5 4
			♠ K Q J 10 3
			♠ A K 2

The first North player in a recent match raised South's One Spade opening direct to Four. Reassured about the solidity of the trump suit, South jumped straight to Six Spades.

West led ♠ Q to South's ♠ A. Dummy was entered with ♠ Q and ♠ 8 was led. East went up with ♠ A and returned ♠ 8. South won, discarded Dummy's last Diamond on ♠ 10, ruffed his ♠ 2 and claimed the balance.

In Room 2, North's response was Two Clubs and South then bid Three Hearts. Six Spades was duly reached and the first three leads were the same, but the bidding induced East to make the bright shot of playing low when ♠ 8 was led from Dummy at trick 3. He regained the loss of ♠ A with interest as South could not cope with West's four trumps.

STUBBORN CHINESE RED STANDS

Determined Counter-Attacks To Stop U.N. Forces' Advance Organised In Depth Along Main Defence System

Tokyo, Mar. 4.

The all-British 27th Brigade, one of the spearheads of "Operation Killer," advanced another 3,000 yards in Central Korea today, reaching a point only three miles southeast of the strategic road junction of Yongduri.

On their left flank, the American 7th Division task force raced ahead of them and brought their four-day advance to 20 miles beyond their starting point.

The Americans got within about 25 miles of the 38th Parallel before stalling at a Chinese Communist entrenchment just south of Chongpyong, according to frontline reports.

The Communists, apparently caught by surprise when the Americans broke through their defences, have been unable to offer effective resistance to the 7th Division until now.

Reports today also said that there was substantial Communist convoy movement south of the 38th Parallel in the Chongpyong area.

The stubborn fight for Hoengsong, further east, the king-pin of the present Communist defences, settled down to a heavy gun duel between the advancing United Nations forces and the Northern forces holding the surrounding ridges.

The 13th-day-old offensive, backed by powerful air support, was rolling forward slowly towards the main Chinese Communist defence line against increasing resistance, marked by several big counter-attacks. The United States 2nd Division, 11 miles below Hoengsong, gained only 1,000 yards in day-long attack and counter-attack.

BITTER STRUGGLE

French and American troops two miles on their flank were forced to disengage after 12 hours of bitter struggle.

South Korean infantry four miles east of Hoengsong fell back in one sector but repulsed an attack in another.

American infantry, thrusting towards Pangnim, further east, had more success, soundly thrashing Communists in their path with shells, rockets and bombers. The Chinese Communists left some 200 casualties behind in their retreat.

Greek troops were taking part in the advance against Yongduri, an increasingly strong resistance point half-way between Seoul and Hoengsong.

The American 1st Cavalry Division threatening the town from the south annihilated a Chinese Communist force which had denied their lines with a suicide attack.

More than 1,000 United Nations warplanes took part yesterday in one of the most active days of aerial warfare since the Korean war.

The 9th Corps advanced about a mile today in its "Operation Killer" offensive. A Corps spokesman said that there was no resistance to the advance.

HOENGSONG DUEL

Determined Chinese Communist attacks to stop the United Nations advance had yesterday forced American, French and South Korean infantry to withdraw at least temporarily in some sectors around Hoengsong. Most resistance broke under the overwhelming superiority of the Allied artillery and air power.

On the left of the 9th Corps' front United States Cavalry and infantry patrols moved out during the day, seeking the Communist strength. Cavalry patrols reported several skirmishes in which American artillery took part.

Communists in growing strength counter-attacked at several points of the United Nations advance in daylight

today. Officers said that this showed the Communists' growing confidence—they launched night attacks only during last month—but there was still no indication that the Allies had run into the main Communist defences.

The counter-attacks were all beaten off "without strain," a frontline spokesman said.

STUBBORN DEFENCE

General Ridgway has apparently shifted the main weight of his "limited objective" offensive from the left flank where the Commonwealth Brigade and American troops have lately been able to gain only about two miles daily through stubbornly held positions.

The Communists are not patrolling the hills in any great strength but it takes heavy concentrations of guns and warplanes to clear them thoroughly before the Allied infantry can advance in accordance with General Ridgway's "take no chances" orders.

Night intruder bombers, using flares, reported overnight heavy road traffic all over North Korea. They themselves attacked over 700 lorries, mostly moving south in large convoys towards the battle area.

General MacArthur announced today that the Chinese Communist forces in the central sector of the front from Seoul to Hoengsong were organised in some depth with the bulk of their forces apparently concentrated north of Hoengsong.

DELAYING TACTICS

He said that delaying actions gave the Communists time to replace troops and to regroup tactical reserves in the rear. He drew attention to their thorough defence preparations in the Seoul area, where, he said, the Communists had been working on signal installations, barbed-wire defences, earth-works and gun emplacements for several weeks.

Refugees are steadily returning to the rubble-filled, flattened port of Incheon after taking shelter on an island off the coast during the Communist occupation of the city.

A Korean Catholic priest there, Father Laurent Young, Chaplain to the United States 1st Corps, said that the action of American Rear-Admiral L. A. Thacker, the commander of a naval port group, providing food and medical supplies to 30,000 refugees on one island had prevented what could have been the worst famine in the Korean war.

Father Young said that four Korean boys had been killed in a Communist strike against one island. On another sheltering refugees eight children had been found starved to death.—Reuter.

Lonely Heart Slayers

New York, Mar. 4.

Sing Sing's electric chair was being prepared today for the execution on Thursday of Martha Beck and Raymond Fernandez, New York's "lonely hearts slayers."

The only hope for the couple, who made a business preying on love-starved widows, is the possibility of an 11th-hour reprieve by the Governor of New York, Mr Tom Dewey.

Fernandez, a 36-year-old Hawaiian-born Spaniard, and his sweetheart, Martha, aged 31, were convicted of murdering a New York widow. They also confessed to killing another widow and her infant daughter.

Mrs Beck will be the eighth woman to die in Sing Sing's electric chair.—Reuter.



QUEEN IN HAVANA—Well suited for the title of Queen of the Carnival is lovely Gladys de los Angeles Garcia, in Havana, Cuba. The 19-year-old brunette won the title and will reign during the gala six-week festival.

100 To 1 Casualties Inflicted On Reds

Tokyo, Mar. 4.

Today, 40 days since General Matthew B. Ridgway's "limited counter-offensive" pushed off from the 37th Parallel, the United Nations frontline commanders are still searching for a Communist main line of resistance.

After 40 days they find their line 40 miles further north, but there are no sure indications that the Chinese Communists and North Koreans will attempt to block their advance.

Optimistic frontline officers are now thinking that the United Nations forces' superior firepower had sadly convinced the inadequately armed Communists that any strong defence line could only be established with increased Communist firepower.

In the 40 days that General Ridgway's United Nations force of Americans, South Koreans, British, Turks, Australians, New Zealanders, Canadians, French, Dutch, Greeks and Belgians has inflicted, General Ridgway has claimed, at least 100 to 1 casualties.

This ratio of casualties, General Ridgway claims, is the purpose of his offensive—"to kill the Communists rather than to gain real estate."

The so-called "Operation Killer" has advanced behind a screen of artillery shells, burning jellied gasoline, rockets, bullets and bombs.

Only snow-storms, fogs and darkness have slowed down the daily air-strikes. But American, British and New Zealand artillery have, for the greater part of the last 40 days, kept up a 24-hour barrage on the No Man's Land fronting the United Nations offensive.

When there were no targets, named by frontline observers, they pumped high explosive and

incendiary, anti-personnel shells into places where the enemy were likely to be hiding the artilleryman's "harassing fire."

Long-range artillery probed further behind the enemy lines throughout the day and night, shelling strategic bridges, crossroads, assembly areas through which the enemy must pass, denying him the use of those places—the artilleryman's interdiction fire.

And artillery and low-flying fighters have been used as an infantryman's weapon—he has been able to call their fire-power onto Communist obstacles slowing his advance.—Reuter.

More Vampires Reach Malaya

London, Mar. 4.

Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir John Slessor, Chief of the Air Staff, today congratulated the Transport Command for the successful delivery of 44 Vampire jet fighters to the Far East Air Force over a route of 8,850 miles.

The planes passed through airfields in all countries en route from England to Singapore, where they are re-equipping the Far East squadrons. The flight is believed to have been the longest of its kind undertaken by jet aircraft.—Reuter.

Sweden's Army Planning

Gaele, Mar. 4.

Sweden can mobilise "in a short time" an army of 20 to 30 divisions of the usual West European size, the Defence Minister, M. Alan Vougt, said in a speech in Gaele, East Sweden, today.

"Under the existing conditions, this is a force of respectable size," he added.—Reuter.

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